

MSHA's Accident Prevention Program Miner's Tip



"Driller/Blaster Communications"

Category: Blasting Mine Type: All Surface

Since 1978, 281 incidents have occurred where individuals were struck by material being blasted at mine sites. In order for a blaster to safely determine the amount of explosive to be loaded in boreholes, the condition of the material being blasted needs to be determined.

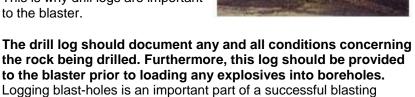
The best person to provide this information is the driller. An experienced driller can determine many things about the rock being drilled from the way the drill operates. The driller is the only individual who knows this information.

Voids, mud seams and cracks are prime examples of rock irregularities that a driller needs to know about. Often times these irregularities occur in only a



small portion of the rock to be blasted. If these irregularities are not known and taken into account by the blaster. Serious flyrock may occur.

This is why drill logs are important to the blaster.



Drillers need to provide this information to blasters. Blasters need to use this information.

Communication costs nothing, takes little time and saves lives.

operation.

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